



# Mobile County Health Department

## Major General William C. Gorgas Clinic

251 N. BAYOU STREET P.O. BOX 2867 MOBILE, ALABAMA 36652-2867 (251) 690-8158 FAX (251) 432-7443

Bernard H. Eichold II, M.D., Dr. P.H., F.A.C.P.  
Health Officer

**BOARD OF HEALTH**  
Juan F. Ronderos, M.D., Chairman  
Raymond Broughton, M.D.  
Elizabeth A. Mancini, M.D.

John R. Russell, M.D., M.S., F.A.C.R.O.  
Mary S. Wells, M.D., F.A.A.P.  
Ronald D. Franks, M.D.  
Stephen Nodine, President, County Commission

DATE: May 13, 2008

TO: Board of Censors  
Medical Society of Mobile County

FROM: Juan F. Ronderos, M.D.  
Chairman, Mobile County Board of Health

SUBJECT: Informational Items for April

- We were recently notified that the Mobile County Health Department, in collaboration with the Center for Healthy Communities and the Center for Strategic Health Innovation at the University of South Alabama, was named one of 10 recipients out of 134 applicants in the nation to be awarded a two-year grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. We will use the \$275,000 grant to implement and evaluate a tele-monitoring diabetes intervention program designed to reduce racial and ethnic health care disparities.
- With the beginning of the 2008 hurricane season less than three weeks away, we are upgrading our Incident Command System and updating our Emergency Team staffing rosters for the Medical Needs Shelter and the Mass Care Shelter.
- Emergency Preparedness personnel took part in a Pandemic Influenza Planning Meeting with Mobile Gas. They also conducted two Pandemic Flu & Personal Preparedness presentations and exercises for the company.
- In addition to their regular inspection duties, Food & Lodging environmentalists inspected the operations at the Arts Alive, Shrimp Cook-off and Blues Festival events. Following a suggestion from Dr. Eichold, the environmentalists distributed flyers urging vendors at these events to furnish their customers with hand sanitizer. Many of them complied. The environmentalists will continue to ask vendors at special events to extend this courtesy.
- Armed with a proclamation from Mayor Sam Jones declaring April 2 to be Kick Butts Day in the city of Mobile, 60 members of Students Working Against Tobacco created a "living billboard" in front of Phillips Preparatory School on that day. It included a hearse, tombstones, a body bag, and a shoe



*The Mobile County Health Department has earned  
the Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval.*

cemetery containing 145 pairs of shoes representing the 145 people who die everyday in the United States from secondhand smoke-related illnesses. The Grim Reaper was also present. Student Working Against Tobacco, also known as SWAT, is an initiative of the Health Department's Tobacco Control program.

SWAT members also visited two schools in April at which they made a total of 23 presentations that reached 474 students in grades 4-6.

- Health Education personnel from the TEEN Center visited two schools and six community organizations. They conducted 20 sessions and reached a total of 963 students.
- In April, the Primary Care patient visits for all sites and visits for all other services totaled 8,877.
- Primary Care at the downtown site had 2,864 patients with a total of 3,857 medical and dental visits. These included pediatrics through geriatrics.
- The satellite clinics had a total of 3,045 Primary Care patient visits.
- The Women's Center had 1,975 patient visits.
- A total of 2,432 immunizations were administered at Health Department sites.
- There was 1 new case of AIDS and 6 new HIV cases in April. Year to date, there have been 21 cases of AIDS and 45 cases of HIV compared to 28 cases of AIDS and 30 HIV cases for the same period last year.
- Vector Control received 61 mosquito complaints, which was triple the number it received in March.

■ ■ ■